

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Estuary Habitat Restoration Council; Open Meeting**

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 105(h) of the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000, (Title I, Pub. L. 106-457), announcement is made of the forthcoming meeting of the Estuary Habitat Restoration Council. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held October 24, 2005, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be in room 3M60/70 in the GAO building located at 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ellen Cummings, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC 20314-1000, (202) 761-4750; or Ms. Cynthia Garman-Squier, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), Washington, DC, (703) 695-6791.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Estuary Habitat Restoration Council consists of representatives of five agencies. These are the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Agriculture, and Army. The duties of the Council include soliciting, reviewing, and evaluating project proposals, and submitting to the Secretary of the Army a prioritized list of projects recommended for construction.

Agenda topics will include review and ranking of project proposals to be recommended for potential funding under the Estuary Habitat Restoration Program, update on the National Estuary Restoration Inventory, reports on the dialogue session at the CZ05 meeting, an interagency developmental assignment and status of ongoing projects.

Current security measures require that persons interested in attending the meeting must pre-register with us before 2 p.m., October 20, 2005. We cannot guarantee access for requests received after that time. Please contact Ellen Cummings to pre-register. When leaving a voice mail message please provide the name of the individual attending, the company or agency represented, and a

telephone number, in case there are any questions. The public should enter on the "G" Street side of the GAO building. All attendees are required to show photo identification and must be escorted to the meeting room by Corps personnel. Attendee's bags and other possessions are subject to being searched. All attendees arriving between one-half hour before and one-half hour after 10 a.m. will be escorted to the meeting. Those who are not pre-registered and/or arriving later than the allotted time will be unable to attend the public meeting.

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-19955 Filed 10-4-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-92-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 5, 2005.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the

information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: September 29, 2005.

Angela C. Arrington,

Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Federal Student Aid

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Federal Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Affected Public: Individuals or household.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 2,959,380.

Burden Hours: 2,219,535.

Abstract: The Federal Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note is the means by which an eligible student borrower promises to repay a Federal Stafford Loan.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2898. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-245-6621. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Joseph Schubart at his e-mail address Joe.Schubart@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information

Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 05-19963 Filed 10-4-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Public Hearing

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; Education

SUMMARY: The National Assessment Governing Board is announcing a public hearing on October 25, 2005 to obtain comment on the draft 2009 Science Framework for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Public and private parties and organizations are invited to present written and/or oral testimony. The forum will be held at the Phoenix Park Hotel, 520 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Background: Under Public Law 107-279, the Governing board is responsible for determining the content and methodology of NAEP assessments. The Board also has responsibility for developing "a process for review of the [NAEP] assessment, which includes the active participation of teachers, curriculum specialists, local school board administrators, parents, and concerned members of the public." The draft framework is the result of a comprehensive process involving participants from all these groups.

The framework, subject to approval by the Governing Board, describes the content and format for a new NAEP science assessment to be administered beginning in 2009 at grades 4, 8, and 12.

The frame work covers a broad range of scientific content and practices in Physical, Life, and Earth/Space sciences. It was developed by panels of educators, scientists, and interested members of the public through a widely-inclusive process.

The draft framework is available on the Web site of the Governing Board at <http://www.nagb.org>. Other related material on the Governing Board and the National Assessment may be found at this Web site and at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

The Board is seeking comment from policymakers, science educators, researchers, state and local school administrators, assessment specialists, parents of children in elementary and secondary schools, and interested members of the public. Representatives of the National Assessment Governing Board will conduct the hearing to receive testimony, and may ask clarifying questions or respond to

presentations. Oral presentations should not exceed ten minutes. Testimony will become part of the public record.

All views will be considered by the Governing Board Committee when it takes final action on the NAEP 2009 Science Framework, which is anticipated in November 2005.

To register to present oral testimony on October 25, 2005 at the Phoenix Park Hotel, please call Tessa Regis, of the NAGB staff, at (202) 357-7500 or send an e-mail to tessa.regis@ed.gov by Friday, October 21. Written testimony should be sent by mail, fax or e-mail for receipt in the Board office by October 26.

Testimony should be sent to: National Assessment Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW.—Suite 825, Washington, DC 20002, Attn: Mary Crovo, Fax: (202) 357-6945, E-mail: mary.crovo@ed.gov.

For further information, please contact Charles Smith or Mary Crovo at (202) 357-6938.

This document is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend. Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (*i.e.*, interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format) should notify Munira Mwalimu at (202) 357-6938 or at munira.mwalimu@ed.gov no later than October 17, 2005. We will attempt to meet requests after this date, but cannot guarantee availability of the requested accommodation. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 412 of the National Education Statistics Act of 1994, as amended.

The Board is established to set policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The Board's responsibilities include selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, developing appropriate student achievement levels for each grade and subject tested, planning and executing the initial public release of NAEP reports, and developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results.

Summaries of the forum, which are informative to the public and consistent with the policy of section 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), will be available to the public within 14 days of the meeting. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite #825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW.,

Washington, DC, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern standard time.

Dated: September 30, 2005.

Munira Mwalimu,

Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board.

[FR Doc. 05-19957 Filed 10-4-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Proposed Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement for the Mesaba Energy Project Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) Demonstration Plant Northern Minnesota Iron Range, Itasca County, MN

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of intent and notice of proposed floodplain and wetlands involvement.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] parts 1500-1508), and the DOE NEPA regulations (10 CFR part 1021) to assess the potential environmental impacts of a project proposed by Excelsior Energy Inc. (Excelsior), to design, construct, and operate (potentially under an agreement with an operating company) a coal-based, Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) electric generating facility on the Iron Range of northern Minnesota (hereafter termed the "Mesaba Energy Project" or the "Project"). The proposed Project, selected for further consideration under DOE's Clean Coal Power Initiative competitive solicitation, would demonstrate advanced technologies to produce electricity via the IGCC process, including advanced gasification and air separation systems, feedstock flexibility, improved environmental performance, and improved thermal efficiency. The Project would represent the first phase of a proposed two-phase generating station, each phase of which would nominally generate 600 megawatts of electricity (MWe) for export to the electrical grid. The EIS will consider the impacts of both phases, even though DOE's potential funding would only be provided in support of phase one. The EIS will evaluate the proposed Project and reasonable alternatives. Because the proposed Project may affect floodplains and wetlands on the Iron Range of